

CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. A method of deploying computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:
 - searching locally for the code for the feature;
 - requesting the code for the feature from a server component in the network;
 - receiving the code for the feature from the server component; and
 - activating the feature.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising establishing a need for the code for the feature.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein establishing a need for the code for the feature is based on a request for the feature.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the feature comprises at least one sub-feature.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the sub-feature may be used with other features.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the code received from the server component for the feature is an upgrade to an existing feature.
7. The method of claim 6, further comprising upgrading other existing features based on the code received from the server component for the feature.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein activating the feature comprises
2 activating all resources associated with the feature.

3 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the code for the feature received from the
4 server component is a mapping.

5 10. The method of claim 1, wherein requesting the code for the feature from a
6 server component in the network includes at least one restriction on the feature.

7 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the at least one restriction on the feature
8 is set by a user.

9 12. A method of deploying computer code for a feature within a network,
10 comprising:

11 searching locally for the code for the feature, wherein the feature
12 comprises a plurality of sub-features; and

13 requesting the code for at least one sub-feature from a server component
14 within the network.

15 13. The method of claim 12, further comprising:

16 requesting the code for the feature from the sever component within the
17 network; and

18 receiving information from the server component within the network
19 about the sub-features.

20 14. The method of claim 12, further comprising receiving code for the at least
21 one sub-feature requested from the server component within the network.

15. The method of claim 12, further comprising receiving a mapping for the at least one sub-feature requested from the server component within the network.

16. The method of claim 14, further comprising receiving a mapping for the at least one sub-feature requested from the server component within the network.

17. A method of deploying computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

receiving a request for the code for the feature from a first component within the network;

searching locally for the code for the feature; and

requesting the code for the feature from a second component in the network.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising receiving the code for the feature from the second component within the network.

19. The method of claim 18, further comprising determining whether the first component has capability to process the code for the feature.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein capability to process the code for the feature is based on a type of processor on the first component.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein capability to process the code for the feature is based on memory space on the first component.

22. The method of claim 19, wherein capability to process the code for the feature is based on an operating system on the first component.

23. The method of claim 18, further comprising transferring the code for the feature to the first component within the network.

24. The method of claim 23, further comprising encrypting the code for the feature before transferring the code for the feature to the first component within the network.

25. The method of claim 23, further comprising digitally signing the code for the feature before transferring the code for the feature to the first component within the network.

26. The method of claim 23, further comprising storing locally the code for the feature.

27. A method of deploying computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

receiving a request for the code for the feature from a component within the network;

searching locally for the code for the feature; and

transferring the code for the feature to the component within the network.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein the code for the feature transferred to the component within the network is a mapping.

29. The method of claim 27, wherein the feature comprises separate versions.

30. The method of claim 29, further comprising determining a version of the code for the feature to transfer to the component within the network.

31. The method of claim 30, wherein determining a version of the code for the feature to transfer to the component within the network is based on a restriction.

1 32. A method of deploying computer code for a feature within a network,
2 comprising:
3 searching locally for the code for the feature, wherein the feature
4 comprises a plurality of sub-features;
5 requesting the code for at least one sub-feature from a server component in
6 the network;
7 receiving code for at least one sub-feature from the server component; and
8 activating the at least one sub-feature received from the server component.

9 33. The method of claim 32, wherein at least one sub-feature received from
10 the server component is a mapping.

11 34. A method of deploying computer code for a feature within a network,
12 comprising:
13 receiving a request for the code for the feature from a component within
14 the network, wherein the feature comprises at least one sub-feature;
15 searching locally for the code for the at least one sub-feature; and
16 determining whether the component has capability to process code for any
17 sub-features of the feature.

18 35. The method of claim 34, further comprising transferring the code for the at
19 least one sub-feature to the component within the network.

20 36. The method of claim 35, wherein the code for the at least one sub-feature
21 transferred to the component within the network is a mapping.

1 37. The method of claim 34, further comprising transferring some of the code
2 for sub-features of the feature to the component within the network.

3 38. The method of claim 37, further comprising transferring code for a
4 mapping to the component within the network.

5 39. The method of claim 34, wherein capability to process code for any sub-
6 features of the feature is based on a type of processor on the component.

7 40. The method of claim 34, wherein capability to process code for any sub-
8 features of the feature is based on memory space on the component.

9 41. The method of claim 34, wherein capability to process code for any sub-
10 features of the feature is based on an operating system on the component.

11 42. The method of claim 34, wherein the request for the code for the feature
12 includes at least one restriction on the feature.

13 43. The method of claim 34, wherein the at least one sub-feature comprises
14 separate versions.

15 44. The method of claim 43, further comprising:
16 determining a version of the code for the at least one sub-feature to
17 transfer to the component within the network; and
18 transferring the version of the code for the at least one sub-feature to the
19 component within the network.

20 45. A method of deploying computer code for a feature within a network,
21 comprising:
22 receiving code for a feature;

determining whether a client needs the feature; and

transferring the code for the feature to at least one client.

46. The method of claim 45, wherein the feature is an upgrade to an old feature.

47. The method of claim 45, further comprising transferring code for a mapping to the at least one client.

48. The method of claim 45, wherein the code transferred is a mapping.

49. The method of claim 45, wherein the feature is a sub-feature.

50. A method of deploying computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

receiving a request for the code for the feature, wherein the feature

comprises a plurality of sub-features;

searching locally for the code for the feature;

requesting the code for the feature from a server component within the

network;

receiving information from the server component within the network

about the sub-features;

searching locally for the code for the sub-features;

requesting the code for at least one sub-feature from the server component

within the network;

receiving the code for the at least one sub-feature from the server

component within the network; and

activating the at least one sub-feature.

51. A method of deploying computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

receiving a request for the code for the feature from a first component within the network, wherein the feature comprises a plurality of sub-features;

sending information to the first component about the sub-features;

receiving a request for the code for at least one sub-feature from the first component within the network;

searching locally for the code for the at least one sub-feature; and

requesting the code for the at least one sub-feature from a second component in the network.

52. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for searching locally for the code for the feature;

means for requesting the code for the feature from a server component in the network;

means for receiving the code for the feature from the server component;

and

means for activating the feature.

53. The system of claim 52, wherein the feature comprises at least one sub-feature.

54. The system of claim 53, wherein the sub-feature may be used with other features.

1 55. The system of claim 52, wherein the code received from the server
2 component for the feature is an upgrade to an existing feature.

3 56. The system of claim 55, further comprising means for upgrading other
4 existing features based on the code received from the server component for the feature.

5 57. The method of claim 52, wherein the means for requesting the code for the
6 feature from a server component in the network includes at least one restriction on the feature.

7 58. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network,
8 comprising:

9 means for searching locally for the code for the feature, wherein the
10 feature comprises a plurality of sub-features; and

11 means for requesting the code for at least one sub-feature from a server
12 component within the network.

13 59. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network,
14 comprising:

15 means for receiving a request for the code for the feature from a first
16 component within the network;

17 means for searching locally for the code for the feature; and

18 means for requesting the code for the feature from a second component in
19 the network.

20 60. The system of claim 59, further comprising means for receiving the code
21 for the feature from the second component within the network.

61. The system of claim 60, further comprising means for determining whether the first component has capability to process the code for the feature.

62. The system of claim 60, further comprising means for transferring the code for the feature to the first component within the network.

63. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for receiving a request for the code for the feature from a component within the network;

means for searching locally for the code for the feature; and
means for transferring the code for the feature to the component within the network.

64. The system of claim 63, wherein the feature comprises separate versions.

65. The system of claim 64, further comprising means for determining a version of the code for the feature to transfer to the component within the network.

66. The system of claim 65, wherein the means for determining a version of the code for the feature to transfer to the component within the network is based on a restriction.

67. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for searching locally for the code for the feature, wherein the feature comprises a plurality of sub-features;

means for requesting the code for at least one sub-feature from a server component in the network;

means for receiving code for at least one sub-feature from the server component; and
means for activating the at least one sub-feature received from the server component.

68. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for receiving a request for the code for the feature from a component within the network, wherein the feature comprises at least one sub-feature;
means for searching locally for the code for the at least one sub-feature;
and
means for determining whether the component has capability to process code for any sub-features of the feature.

69. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for receiving code for a feature;
means for determining whether a client needs the feature; and
means for transferring the code for the feature to at least one client.

70. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for receiving a request for the code for the feature, wherein the feature comprises a plurality of sub-features;
means for searching locally for the code for the feature;
means for requesting the code for the feature from a server component within the network;

means for receiving information from the server component within the network about the sub-features;

means for searching locally for the code for the sub-features;

means for requesting the code for at least one sub-feature from the server component within the network;

means for receiving the code for the at least one sub-feature from the server component within the network; and

means for activating the at least one sub-feature.

71. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for receiving a request for the code for the feature from a first component within the network, wherein the feature comprises a plurality of sub-features;

means for sending information to the first component about the sub-features;

means for receiving a request for the code for at least one sub-feature from the first component within the network;

means for searching locally for the code for the at least one sub-feature;

and

means for requesting the code for the at least one sub-feature from a second component in the network.

72. An article of manufacture for causing a computer to deploy computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for causing the computer to search locally for the code for the feature;

means for causing the computer to request the code for the feature from a server component in the network;

means for causing the computer to receive the code for the feature from the server component; and

means for causing the computer to activate the feature.

73. An article of manufacture for causing a computer to deploy computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for causing the computer to search locally for the code for the feature, wherein the feature comprises a plurality of sub-features; and

means for causing the computer to request the code for at least one sub-feature from a server component within the network.

74. An article of manufacture for causing a computer to deploy computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for causing the computer to receive a request for the code for the feature from a first component within the network;

means for causing the computer to search locally for the code for the feature; and

means for causing the computer to request the code for the feature from a second component in the network.

75. An article of manufacture for causing a computer to deploy computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for causing the computer to receive a request for the code for the feature from a component within the network;

means for causing the computer to search locally for the code for the feature; and

means for causing the computer to transfer the code for the feature to the component within the network.

76. An article of manufacture for causing a computer to deploy computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for causing the computer to search locally for the code for the feature, wherein the feature comprises a plurality of sub-features;

means for causing the computer to request the code for at least one sub-feature from a server component in the network;

means for causing the computer to receive code for at least one sub-feature from the server component; and

means for causing the computer to activate the at least one sub-feature received from the server component.

77. An article of manufacture for causing a computer to deploy computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for causing the computer to receive a request for the code for the feature from a component within the network, wherein the feature comprises at least one sub-feature;

means for causing the computer to search locally for the code for the at least one sub-feature; and

means for causing the computer to determine whether the component has capability to process code for any sub-features of the feature.

78. An article of manufacture for causing a computer to deploy computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for causing the computer to receive code for a feature;

means for causing the computer to determine whether a client needs the feature; and

means for causing the computer to transfer the code for the feature to at least one client.

79. An article of manufacture for causing a computer to deploy computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for causing the computer to receive a request for the code for the feature, wherein the feature comprises a plurality of sub-features;

means for causing the computer to search locally for the code for the feature;

means for causing the computer to request the code for the feature from a server component within the network;

means for causing the computer to receive information from the server component within the network about the sub-features;

means for causing the computer to search locally for the code for the sub-features;

means for causing the computer to request the code for at least one sub-feature from the server component within the network;

means for causing the computer to receive the code for the at least one sub-feature from the server component within the network; and

means for causing the computer to activate the at least one sub-feature.

80. An article of manufacture for causing a computer to deploy computer code for a feature within a network, comprising:

means for causing the computer to receive a request for the code for the feature from a first component within the network, wherein the feature comprises a plurality of sub-features;

means for causing the computer to send information to the first component about the sub-features;

means for causing the computer to receive a request for the code for at least one sub-feature from the first component within the network;

means for causing the computer to search locally for the code for the at least one sub-feature; and

means for causing the computer to request the code for the at least one sub-feature from a second component in the network.

81. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, the system comprising:

a storage device storing a program;

a processor in communication with the storage device, the processor operative with the program to:

search locally for the code for the feature;

request the code for the feature from a server component in the network;

1 receive the code for the feature from the server component; and
2 activate the feature.

3 82. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, the
4 system comprising:

5 a storage device storing a program;

6 a processor in communication with the storage device, the processor
7 operative with the program to:

8 search locally for the code for the feature, wherein the feature comprises a
9 plurality of sub-features; and

10 request the code for at least one sub-feature from a server component
11 within the network.

12 83. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, the
13 system comprising:

14 a storage device storing a program;

15 a processor in communication with the storage device, the processor
16 operative with the program to:

17 receive a request for the code for the feature from a first component within
18 the network;

19 search locally for the code for the feature; and

20 request the code for the feature from a second component in the network.

21 84. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, the
22 system comprising:

23 a storage device storing a program;

1 a processor in communication with the storage device, the processor
2 operative with the program to:
3 receive a request for the code for the feature from a component within the
4 network;
5 search locally for the code for the feature; and
6 transfer the code for the feature to the component within the network.

7 85. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, the
8 system comprising:

9 a storage device storing a program;
10 a processor in communication with the storage device, the processor
11 operative with the program to:
12 search locally for the code for the feature, wherein the feature comprises a
13 plurality of sub-features;
14 request the code for at least one sub-feature from a server component in
15 the network;
16 receive code for at least one sub-feature from the server component; and
17 activate the at least one sub-feature received from the server component.

18 86. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, the
19 system comprising:

20 a storage device storing a program;
21 a processor in communication with the storage device, the processor
22 operative with the program to:

1 receive a request for the code for the feature from a component within the
2 network, wherein the feature comprises at least one sub-feature;
3 search locally for the code for the at least one sub-feature; and
4 determine whether the component has capability to process code for any
5 sub-features of the feature.

6 87. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, the
7 system comprising:

8 a storage device storing a program;
9 a processor in communication with the storage device, the processor
10 operative with the program to:

11 receive code for a feature;
12 determine whether a client needs the feature; and
13 transfer the code for the feature to at least one client.

14 88. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, the
15 system comprising:

16 a storage device storing a program;
17 a processor in communication with the storage device, the processor
18 operative with the program to:

19 receive a request for the code for the feature, wherein the feature
20 comprises a plurality of sub-features;
21 search locally for the code for the feature;
22 request the code for the feature from a server component within the
23 network;

1 receive information from the server component within the network about
2 the sub-features;
3 search locally for the code for the sub-features;
4 request the code for at least one sub-feature from the server component
5 within the network;
6 receive the code for the at least one sub-feature from the server component
7 within the network; and
8 activate the at least one sub-feature.

9 89. A system for deploying computer code for a feature within a network, the
10 system comprising:
11 a storage device storing a program;
12 a processor in communication with the storage device, the processor
13 operative with the program to:
14 receive a request for the code for the feature from a first component within
15 the network, wherein the feature comprises a plurality of sub-features;
16 send information to the first component about the sub-features;
17 receive a request for the code for at least one sub-feature from the first
18 component within the network;
19 search locally for the code for the at least one sub-feature; and
20 request the code for the at least one sub-feature from a second component
21 in the network.